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San Jose Remains “Safest Big City in America” According to Latest Study

San Jose ---- San Jose continues to be rated the safest big city in America for the 31 cities with populations over 500,000, according to findings released today by Morgan Quitno Press based on 2002 FBI crime statistics.

“Community safety is one of our highest priorities, and I am very proud that San Jose remains at the top of the list of nation’s safest big cities,” said Mayor Ron Gonzales.

“Keeping San Jose residents and neighborhoods safe is the result of our continuing investments in an excellent, well-trained police force that works effectively in partnership with all the people in our community to prevent crime and protect homes.”

The Morgan Quitno Safest City Award is based on a city’s rate for six basic crime categories: murder, rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary and motor vehicle theft. All cities of 75,000+ populations that reported crime data to the FBI for the six crime categories were included in the rankings. Each of the six crimes was given equal weight. Final 2002 FBI statistics were used in determining the rankings. Explanation of methodology and full details at **www.morganquitno.com/safecity.htm**.

Additional information regarding the rankings for each of the 350 cities and 281 metropolitan areas considered for the Safest City Awards are available from Morgan Quitno Press at **www.morganquitno.com**, or by calling (785) 841-3534.

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2003 Top Ten Safest Big Cities (500,000 or More Population)

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| 1. San Jose, CA | 6. New York, NY |
| 2. El Paso, TX | 7. San Antonio, TX |
| 3. Honolulu, HI | 8. San Francisco, CA |
| 4. Austin, TX | 9. Portland, OR |
| 5. San Diego, CA | 10. Seattle, WA |